

Redstone Rocket

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May 21, 2003

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Army fund-raiser bears up well

Annual campaign tops \$65,000 goal

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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With the backdrop of a war in Iraq, members of the Redstone community opened their hearts and wallets to support the annual fund-raising campaign for soldiers and their families.

Army Emergency Relief surpassed its \$65,000 goal by more than \$10,000 with money still coming in. The total was \$76,143 as of Friday morning, according to AER officer Kristi Foster.

The campaign had a kickoff March 3 and was originally slated to end May 15. "But we've gotten a week extension so we actually have until the 22nd to get everything in," Foster said.

AER provides loans or grants to active duty and retired soldiers and their families when they need assistance.

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Photo by Skip Vaughn

BIG MONEYMAKER— Resource managers sold stuffed bears to raise funds for Army Emergency Relief.

No excuse for family violence

Services are available on post and downtown for victims of abuse

By SANDY RIEBELING

Staff writer

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Your neighbor's black eye or co-worker's broken arm may not be any of your business. Then again, you may be that person's only hope of escaping a violent situation and possibly death. Isn't it worth asking the question: Are you safe at home?

Perhaps there's no sense of moral obligation to reach out to the people around you because it's not your problem. Well, you may not be the one getting hit, but you are the one paying the bill. That makes it your business.

Costs of intimate partner violence against women in the United States exceed \$5.8 billion each year, nearly \$4.1 billion of which is for direct medical and mental health care services, according to a newly released study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"This study confirms what we've long expected," Bill Farris, development manager, Crisis Services of North Alabama, said. "When you get beyond the family devastation, the expense to the country is stunning. The stats I found (in the study) show a loss of 8 million work days of productivity. That equates to more than 32,000 full-time jobs every year."

That's a low estimate, according to researchers who conducted the CDC study because it is based on reported cases of abuse, about 5.3 million annually. It is believed that a large number of incidents go unreported or are misreported – women do not admit



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

READY TO HELP— Virginia Dempsey, Family Advocacy Program manager, joins forces with Bill Farris, development manager at North Alabama Crisis Services, to prevent family violence and spread the word about services available for military and civilians.

the injuries were a result of domestic violence.

"It's difficult to determine true costs when victims of domestic violence visit the E.R. and don't say what really happened because the abuser is sitting right there and they have so much fear. And even when women go into the doctor's office, sometimes they lie. They are caught up in the cycle."

Intimate partner violence, also called domestic violence, battering and spouse abuse, is violence committed by a spouse, ex-spouse, or

See Violence on page 5

Letters to the editor

Fund-raiser hits home run

I would like to extend a word of thanks to all those who could make the Engineering Directorate's AER Team Building Softball Tournament a success May 13 at Vincent Park. With the participation of the ATE, IO, PE, QM, RA, and UAH Divisions, we were able to contribute \$265 to Army Emergency Relief. Also, a special thanks to Ray Harrell and

Leslie Hyatt (scorebook keepers), Dave Whisenant and Julius Compton (tournament umpires), Steven B. Austin (official groundskeeper) and Elaine Tully (drink sales). Thanks again for "Supporting Our Soldiers."

Chris Farmer
Production Engineering Division
RD&E Center

Government exceeds limits

The signs accompanying the wrecked vehicles by the gates are incomplete. They should read "Buckle up OR ELSE!"

The purpose of government is to protect its citizens from the malice of others. I hear on the news the local and state governments are short of funds because of the Homeland Security requirements. I still hear news stories about murders, rape, assaults and other violent crimes so obviously our police forces do not have the money or manpower to prevent them. I hear Governor Riley saying the government is short of money and that he needs to raise taxes.

And yet our governments do have the money and manpower to go after people who don't wear their seat belts? Is that really protecting us from the malice of others? Isn't

it really just trying to protect us from ourselves? How would my not wearing a seat belt endanger the life or property of you?

I personally think wearing seat belts is smart and not wearing them is stupid. I keep hearing about all the freedoms we (supposedly) have in this country, but we don't have the freedom to be stupid?

Let's get back the country Mr. Washington, Mr. Jefferson, and the other founding fathers created for us. Write your newspaper and call your TV station and protest their support of the "Click-it or Ticket" campaign every time it comes up. Most importantly, vote for people who truly believe in the restrictions on government that are stated in the U.S. Constitution.

J.D. Crownover

Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

The Provost Marshal Office provided the following list of reported incidents:

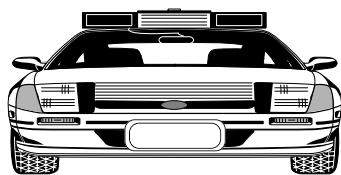
May 12 — A soldier surrendered to the Police Desk as being AWOL from his unit in Germany. The soldier was processed and returned to his unit.

May 12 — A retired soldier reported that money was taken from his unlocked vehicle which was parked at Fox Army Health Center.

May 12 — A soldier reported that he had been involved in a domestic dispute at his on post quarters which became physical. The spouse was charged with assault.

May 13 — A person requesting access to Redstone Arsenal was inspected at gate 10. A small amount of marijuana was found in his vehicle and on his person. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

May 13 — An individual received fines totaling \$1,320 from an incident taking place on Redstone Arsenal in March. The individual was pursued by



officers of the Provost Marshal Office after he attempted to avoid a gate inspection. The individual was apprehended in the Madison area and charged with various traffic violations to include reckless driving, speeding, eluding police officers, driving on a revoked license and DUI.

May 14 — A contractor requesting access to Redstone Arsenal was inspected at gate 7 and found to be in possession of an unauthorized weapon. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Violation notices issued: speeding, 14; possession of controlled substances, 1; no proof of insurance, 1; expired registration, 1; failure to obey traffic control device, 1; and carrying a concealed weapon, 1.

Retroactive pay adjustment due

Recent emails and broadcast messages from the Defense Finance and Accounting Service payroll offices have announced specific time frames and processing schedules projecting when employees in specific major commands can expect to receive the retroactive 1 percent pay adjustment.

Processing of the retroactive transaction is the initial step that Civilian Personnel Operating Centers must perform in order to document and flow the adjusted salary as of Jan.12 via the payroll

interface to the Defense Civilian Pay System. In addition, all intervening pay related transactions effected since Jan. 12 must be corrected and updated in DCPS. The number of corrective transactions will vary for each employee and must be done in order to ensure that all retroactive payments can be paid accurately and timely by DFAS. Only upon receipt of the corrective transactions, will DFAS be able to make retroactive payments.

See Pay on page 11

Veterans have Target for support

We asked a Target store to be a sponsor of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall during our spring recognition event. We received back a reply from Target management that "veterans do not meet our area of giving. We only donate to the areas of the arts, social actions, gay and lesbian causes, and education."

My thought: If the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall and veterans in general, do not meet their donation criteria, something is wrong at Target. We were not

asking for thousands of dollars, not even hundreds, but simply sponsorship of an endorsement for a "memorial remembrance."

As followup, I e-mailed the corporate headquarters and their response was the same. Personally, I will not be purchasing anything at Target Stores again. If the Vietnam veteran or veterans in general do not meet their area of giving, then why should I, as a Vietnam veteran,

See Support on page 11

An open lane random survey

What do you think of Redstone's juvenile curfew?

By **KELLEY LANE**
Staff writer
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Yashica Smith,
teen coordinator

"I think it's a good idea. It helps keep the youth from getting into any trouble. After 10 (o'clock), what activities are going? It's a good idea to give the

youth limitations and set boundaries so they know when it's good to do activities and when it's good to be at home."



Eric Davis, military dependent

"I don't think the curfew is right because nobody comes outside or if they do it's around their house. It should be around 11 o'clock or 11:30 or something."

Kamisha Abner,
military dependent

"I think it's not appropriate. There's nothing really to do on the Arsenal for the youth and most of the youth are in before 10 o'clock anyway. It's not necessary."



Anterius Matthews, military dependent

"I think the curfew is unnecessary."

Redstone Rocket

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Stuffed bears sale delivers for fund-raising campaign

Resource Management Directorate contributes more than \$7,600

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT RELEASE

Members of the Resource Management Directorate wanted to make a significant contribution to the annual Army Emergency Relief campaign. The Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, Operation Iraqi Freedom and the ongoing war on terrorism fueled this desire.

This gave rise to a directorate brainstorming session in which Janice Nolin, budget analyst, conceived the idea of selling a collector's memorabilia — stuffed bears, representing the various military services, policemen and firemen.

Bill Matthews, director of resource management, Mark Barkley, deputy director, and personnel of the directorate bought into and supported Nolin's idea. This effort generated a high level of esprit de corps within the directorate and yielded a check for \$7,604.56, which was provided to 1st Lt. William Bridger, chairman of the

Army Emergency Relief campaign.

The directorate raised these funds through the selling of 2,000 stuffed bears. Nolin said she was amazed at the interest and support shown by the Redstone Arsenal and Huntsville communities.

Volunteers from the directorate and the community sold bears at both Huntsville malls, outside the Commissary, and at multiple locations in the Sparkman Center.

Nolin expressed her gratitude to all who assisted in the sales effort, with special thanks to her teammates, Wilbert Brownlow, the directorate's AER key representative; Liz Blackmon, budget technician; Vivian Fortenberry, budget technician; Kristi Foster, AER officer; Jennifer Jerome; Pamela Johnson, Army Materiel Command fellow; Dr. Harriett Littlepage, chief of program and budget division; Tina Nickles, budget analyst; Wilma Porter, budget analyst, and daughter, Briann Porter; Martin Roggio, AMC fellow; Cody Swinford, AMC intern; and Kim Wright, support services assistant.

"We want to express our thanks to everyone who bought a bear," Nickles said.



Mary Petty/Photo Lab

CHECK MATES— Taking part in the presentation of a \$7,604.56 check to Army Emergency Relief are, from left, Liz Smith, Tina Nichols, Cody Swinford, Janice Nolin, Wilbert Brownlow, Bill Matthews, Mark Barkley, 1st Lt. William Bridger, Martin Roggio, Darlene Hayes-Briggs, Annie Haygood and Kim Wright.

Community addresses quality of life concerns

Recommendations presented in variety of subject areas

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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It all started three months ago with more questions than answers.

Most of the answers were presented Thursday at the back brief session for the Family Action Plan Conference. Remaining issues from the Feb. 25-26 conference will be forwarded to higher headquarters.

"It's a good process. The process works," Col. Bob Devlin, garrison commander, said during the back brief in the Recreation Center.

Twenty-one quality of life issues, three each from seven work groups, resulted from this year's conference. A briefer from each of the various areas presented the recommendations during Thursday's two-hour session.

"I've never sat in on a meeting like this," Marine SSgt. Gayle Morrell said. "I think it's a great process to not only include the military members but also the civilian employees, to bring everyone together. People can see things are being done rather than just complain in this process."

The conference work groups included medical/dental, youth, civilian employment, Morale Welfare and Recreation, commissary/exchange, family housing/facilities maintenance, and traffic/transportation/personnel/finance.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

PERSONNEL ISSUES— Tim Grey, director of personnel and training, discusses promotion processes.

Post Exchange general manager connects with her customers

Kim Sumpter moves up to assume new duties

By KELLEY LANE
Staff writer
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When duty calls, those left behind fill the void. That was the case at the Post Exchange.

PX general manager Kenny Barton volunteered to deploy in support of the retail mission for the troops during Operation Enduring Freedom. He left April 20 for Kuwait and will be gone six months.

As the sales and merchandise manager, Kim Sumpter was next in line. She assumed Barton's duties until his expected return this fall.

"Mr. Barton and I worked as team already anyway," Sumpter said. "We have the same customer philosophy, so that makes it very easy for everything to continue the way it is, rather than stepping in somewhere where you have to change philosophies."

Growing up in a military family, Sumpter saw the importance of the PX mission firsthand. She knew at an early age that it was a mission she wanted to support.

"I'm a traditional Air Force brat — shopped in the PX when I was little and I always said I would work at the PX when I grew up," Sumpter said. "I believe in the mission because I saw the mission growing up. I know exactly what we do because I lived what we do and that makes a dif-

ference. I have a heartfelt connection to it rather than it just being a job."

Her career began working nights while she attended college at Eastern New Mexico 25 years ago. From there she entered the management program and has served several posts both in and out of country. When the opportunity to move closer to her family in North Carolina presented itself in 1991, Sumpter came to Redstone with her son. Since then, Sumpter has been proud to call it home.

"I feel really connected here. My customers are like family. We have an investment," she said. "We know who their families are, we know their grandchildren, they bring them in and we meet them. It's a whole different type of environment than traditional retail would be."

Her regard for her customers is evident as she walks the store. They call out greetings to her by name from the aisles and she pauses to exchange a few warm words with each, reminiscent of the feeling of an old country store in a Norman Rockwell painting.

When Barton gets back, Sumpter will return to sales and merchandise manager, duties which she is still handling.

"Of all the PX's I've been in, this is by far my favorite and I've been in quite a few," she said. "I'm here by choice, because I like the customers and I like what the community is made of."

Customers with any questions or concerns are welcome to share them with her. She can be found in the aisles, marketing her own mixture of modern shopping and old fashioned customer service.



Photo by Kelley Lane

DEMO BOOTH— Kim Sumpter pauses to ask Alan Foot a few questions at the Vita-Mix, in-store demonstration.

■ Abuse cases exceed 5 million annually

Violence

continued from page 1

current or former boyfriend or girlfriend. Abuse includes neglect, verbal put-downs, intimidation and threats, as well as physical contact including sexual abuse.

"Domestic violence isn't about anger," Virginia Dempsey, Family Advocacy Program manager, said. "It is about power and control in a relationship. It usually starts with put-downs, name-calling. The abuser convinces the victim she's nothing, deserves nothing. That she's stupid, incapable of handling money. That no one else will love her."

"And these guys are smooth," Farris, a child violence survivor and victim advocate for more than 20 years, said. "They do all the right things, remember all the right dates and say all the right things. They isolate women, convince them that they are spending too much time talking with their moms or friends – that those relationships are getting in the way and aren't good for her."

Recognizing the signs of the cycle of

violence and knowing how and where to get help is essential to preventing a violent relationship.

"The Army is about prevention," Dempsey said. "The earlier people recognize what's going on, the quicker we can offer services and prevent the cycle from escalating. Women need to know that there is no such thing as a little push or slap. If you accept a lower level physical violence, it makes it easier to progress."

And it does happen, to both men and women, civilian and military. Earlier this year, a soldier from Redstone pleaded guilty in federal court to assaulting his girlfriend in November 2001 in the barracks. According to the victim, an argument over a cell phone escalated and the soldier shoved her then struck her in the face, knocking out two of her teeth. The soldier was ordered to pay restitution and given two years probation.

In 2001 there were 6,404 substantiated allegations of family violence within Army ranks. The total number of spouse-abuse reports was 7,693, with 3,948 of those being substantiated.

"Services are very much here on post,"

Dempsey said. "If you are in trouble, call 911. If there are issues and you want some help managing situations before they escalate, behavioral medicine offers counseling. We have a male batterers group and female support group here. We have parenting classes and stress management. We also make use of the services in the community if we need to. We work with several agencies downtown."

Military families have to deal with deployments and mobile lifestyles – situations that may increase stress. Leaders and commanders need to be alert to soldiers' behaviors and ensure they have the tools to develop and maintain a healthy balance of coping and communication skills within their families. Evidence shows that such factors as increased stress and financial pressures, coupled with social isolation and marital problems can all lead to family violence.

"Getting to it at the beginning, seeing the warning signs is important to preventing violence, which is the ultimate goal," Dempsey said. "It all starts with the perfect guy, knowing what to say, how to gain control and demoralize a woman all while he's making it seem like he's doing it for her own good. Suggesting what to wear and who she can talk to. Jealousy is a form of control. It's not love. Women should know that and beware."

"A push is violence. A shove is violence. Destroying your property is violence," Dempsey said. "Get help before it becomes a trip to the hospital."

Just as important for women to be aware and victims to take action against

the abuser, community support is vital. Be aware of the people around you. Don't be afraid to ask if a woman needs help or if she is safe at home. Know where to tell a victim to go to get help. She may not admit abuse to you but she may accept a card with crisis intervention hotline numbers. She will remember your concern and when she's ready to step out, you may be the first person she comes to.

"And don't get frustrated when she doesn't leave right away or leaves and then goes back," Farris said. "It takes an average of seven times before a victim leaves for good. And it's dangerous, trying to leave. She knows what he has already done. She believes his threat when he says that he'll kill her."

"And as a society we have to hold these abusers responsible," he said. "They are criminals and we need to treat them that way. They need to suffer the consequences. And we can't accept excuses."

Batterers blame their behavior on everything and everyone else, Farris said. It's the victim's fault because she said or did something to make him mad. It's because of the alcohol or drugs or lack of money or job pressures.

"There is no excuse for hurting someone else," Farris said. "Victims need to hear that. They have the right to a life without violence. We are here to help."

For more information call Dempsey at 867-5397 or Crisis Services at (256) 716-1000. BellSouth telephone books also have a special section in the front of the book – blue-edged pages listing names and information for social services.

■ Emergency relief drive gets one week extension

Relief

continued from page 1

"The civilian population and all the different organizations and directorates have gone above and beyond this year," Foster said. "Probably the big surprise this year was the (stuffed) bears; they raised \$7,670."

Resource Management Directorate sponsored the sale of the stuffed bears.

"We really appreciate everyone's sup-

port during a really busy and stressful time for everybody," Foster said. "They've really risen to the occasion and supported our soldiers and our family members. The funds that were raised this year will be put to good use."

"Anytime a war's going on, the pressures and needs increase for the soldiers and families, especially."

Last year some \$352,733 was distributed to 483 active duty soldiers, retirees and qualifying family members. Army-wide, \$38 million went to more than 53,000 soldiers and their families.

Facility meeting high level needs for testing

Robert Russell tower serves research center

By JIM BOWNE
For the Rocket

The top of it can be seen rising against the skyline from a few specific locations on Redstone Arsenal. Parts of its base can be seen through the trees, if you're nearby.

Some suspect it's a fire tower. Others think it might be a test tower of some type that belongs to NASA. Still others believe it has long been abandoned.

Actually, it's the Robert F. Russell Measurement Facility. The tower is dedicated to the memory of Russell, who was instrumental in getting the project started. Russell was chief of the then Radar Technology Branch; and the tower was completed about the time of his death in 1988.

The Russell Measurement Facility is unique, according to Frank Hayes, acting chief of the Infrared and Optical Technical Branch, part of the Applied Sensors, Guidance and Electronics Directorate in the Research Development and Engineering Center.

"There may be others as tall, but this is the only one in the country that has a laboratory at the top of it," he said.

The facility is used for testing sensors and developing tactical weapons sensors and seekers. "Projects can go on for an hour or for days and nights," Hayes said. "I remember when we've tested 24 hours a day for two weeks at a time. We provide the targets, the turntable, and we coordinate with the Redstone Technical Test Center for ground and air targets. We've even had pilots come in from Eglin Air Force Base to fly (fixed-wing targets) for us, as well as from Fort Rucker to fly (helicopters targets)."

The 329-foot tower has a high-tech laboratory at 300 feet that provides a 180-degree view to the west-northwest.

There's a main elevator and a passenger elevator. The main elevator also serves as a movable laboratory area where tests can be conducted at any elevation from zero to 300 feet. This elevator provides a 90-degree view toward the east-southeast. When operating from this elevator, data collected can be transmitted to the rooftop laboratory over cables for recording and analysis.

"The main elevator has windows and can stop at every floor," Hayes said. "This allows

a customer to stop at different levels and get different look-down angles on the target. Of course the main elevator moves slower than the other one, taking a couple of minutes to get to the top.

"There's also a second elevator at the facility. It takes about 45 seconds to go up. It's avail-

able to transport personnel and equipment to any of the nine landings at the facility." Limited tests can be conducted directly from the elevated laboratory rooftop at 329 feet.

The facility's turntable, which cost about \$1 million in the 1980s, weighs 70 tons. Tactical ground targets such as tanks can

be mounted on the turntable; and in conjunction with the test elevator, they can be viewed at various angles. The turntable can be moved to simulate virtually any missile approach angle, from a horizontal direct fire to a vertical top attack.

The facility has a number of land combat vehicles that can be

used as targets, ranging from light transport vehicles up to heavy armor. A variety of natural and manmade clutter surrounds the facility; and targets can be driven or parked at ranges from the base of the tower out to two kilometers.

"We've cut out places in the trees where we can hide the targets," Hayes said. "There are also trails through the woods for the targets to travel on so that they are alternately both visible and obscured by clutter. And there are roads that run through warehouse clutter as well. Of course there are also several ranges where we can run the targets." He plans to acquire more pasture lands on the Arsenal for use as additional test areas.

The facility can support a number of activities involved in developing systems that incorporate optical and radio frequency sensors such as missile systems, fire control systems, and target acquisition systems. These activities include such operations as target signature measurements, evaluation of atmospheric effects, and experimentation with prototype and developmental sensor and seeker hardware.

"We can determine the impact of a wide variety of natural and manmade clutters on system performance and evaluate the impact of countermeasure and counter-countermeasures on system performance," Hayes said. "We also routinely test prototype and developmental sensor systems (both active and passive) that operate in the radio frequency, visible, and infrared spectral bands."

Two meteorological stations, one at the top of the tower and one at ground level, are available to record local standard weather conditions during tests.

"We've performed tests on a lot of different programs," Hayes said. "For example, we've worked on the Bat, Chaparral, FOG-M, Hellfire, Longbow, MLRS, SADARM, and Stinger, to name a few. We also deal with a lot of different sensor families, such as IR/IIR (Passive), LADAR (Active IIR), polarization, hyper spectral, radiometers, acoustic and semi-active lasers."

The facility is self-supporting with income generated by its users. "For a typical operating day, the cost is \$4,000, plus target and any other needed special requirements," Hayes said.

"Our users represent a source of income for our branch," Eddie Batt, facility manager, said. "It costs about \$40,000 per year for

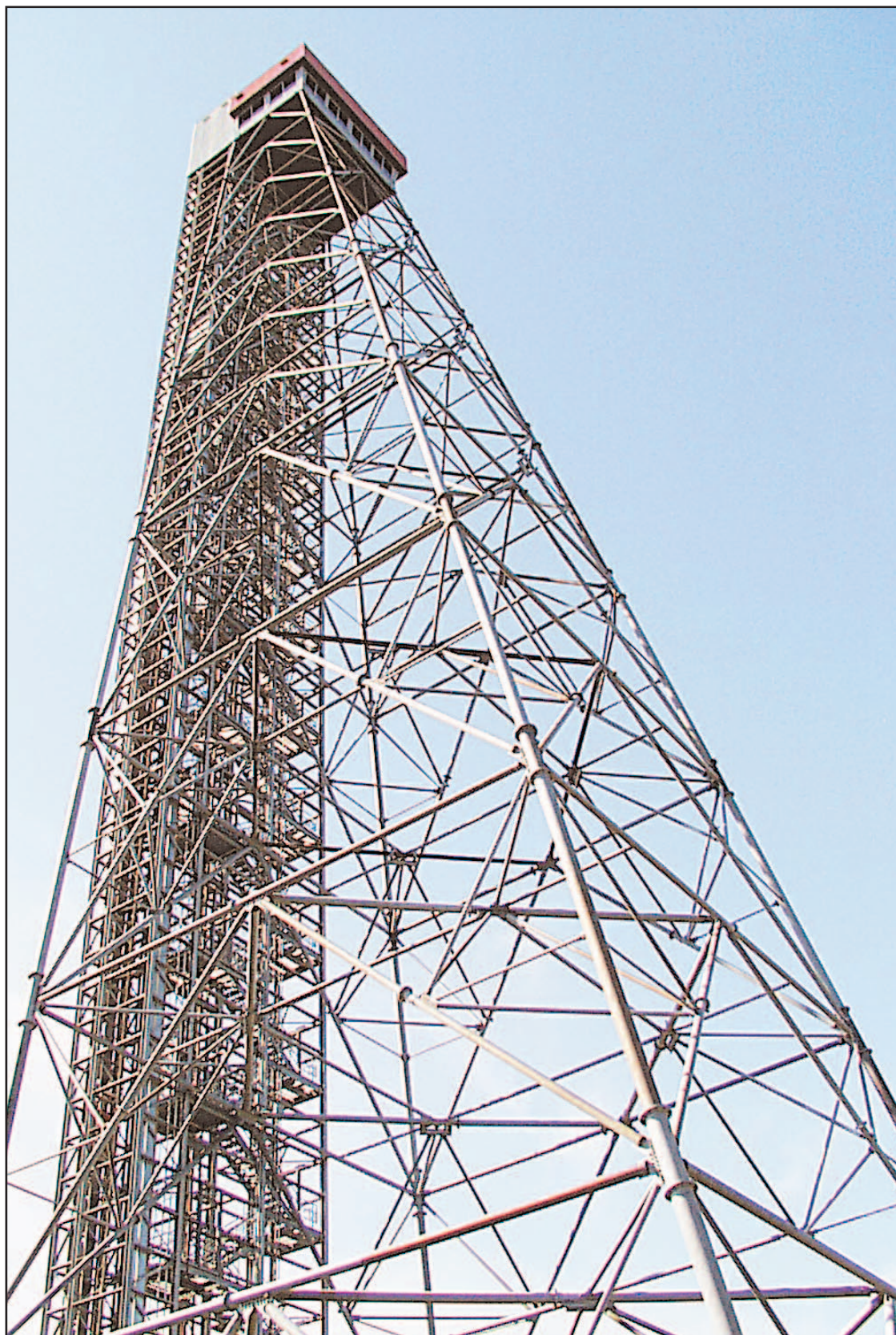


Photo by Jim Bowne

LOOKING UP— The Russell Tower, standing 329 feet tall, is on the southern edge of Redstone Arsenal.

See Testing on page 7

Helicopter crashes in Papua New Guinea

**Contractor pilot dies,
Army passenger hurt**

ARMY NEWS SERVICE

HICKAM AFB, Hawaii — A helicopter contracted by the U.S. Army Central Identification Laboratory carrying five personnel crashed into the ocean off the coastline of Lae, Papua New Guinea, May 8.

A 13-member CILHI team was in Papua New Guinea to excavate the crash site of a World War II B-24 bomber. Aboard the helicopter that crashed were three personnel from the U.S. Army Central Identification Laboratory, a representative from the Papua New Guinea National Museum and a Pacific Helicopter pilot.

The pilot was killed, one of the CILHI personnel was injured and was in stable condition at Angau Memorial Hospital, Lae, and the others were in good condition.

The helicopter had just taken off and was a few minutes into flight when it crashed. The aircraft was en route to the site of the 1943 plane crash, which the team was surveying before moving in its recovery personnel and equipment.

The weather was not believed to be a contributing factor in the crash, officials said.

The CILHI team in Papua New Guinea consists of a team leader, team sergeant, two medics, two forensic anthropologists, an explosive ordnance disposal techni-

cian, a photographer, a communication technician, a mechanic and several mortuary affairs specialists.

Nine servicemembers were believed to have been on board the H B-24D aircraft that went down in 1943. CILHI located the crash site in the mountains near Yalomet Village in the Morobe Province during an investigation in April 2002.

A representative from the Morobe Provincial Government Protocol Office turned over personal affects believed to be associated with the crash site in March 2002. The representative later escorted a CILHI investigative team to the crash site that is located at an elevation of about 10,800 feet.

The B-24 bomber and its crew are believed to have belonged to the 43rd Bomb Group, 63rd Bomb Squadron. The aircraft left Dobodura, New Guinea on an armed reconnaissance mission flying over Kavieng, New Ireland and was returning to Dobodura when it went missing. A pilot, co-pilot, navigator, bombardier, and five gunners were aboard when the aircraft crashed.

Following its helicopter crash, CILHI team has suspended operations and will be returning to Hawaii.

Over the years the lab has identified approximately 110 American World War II servicemembers recovered in Papua New Guinea.

Editor's note: Information provided by Ginger Couden of CILHI Public Affairs.

■ Test community uses 329-foot tower

Testing

continued from page 6

the elevators alone — for maintenance, meeting safety requirements, and just keeping them running. We're adding an air conditioning unit this week and doing modifications to the elevator. Of course we'll have to use a helicopter to lift the unit to a platform at the top of the tower."

The tower has 30 floors and 485 steps

from bottom to top. Although it's built to withstand hurricane-type winds, the workers usually abandon the tower when there are sustained winds above 30 mph. In bad weather, they head for the safety of an old M60A3 tank which is parked nearby.

The Russell facility can be used by any government agency or private contractor sponsored by a government agency. "It's available for use 360 days a year, 24 hours a day," Hayes said.



Photo by Jim Bowne

TEST SCHEDULE— Eddie Batt, left, and Orville Dennis, right, of Operations, listen as branch chief Frank Hayes reviews the schedule for an upcoming test.

Money management class good investment for future

Budgeting, retirement among topics June 2-3

By SANDY RIEBELING
Staff writer
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Naval officer candidate Dondi West came to Army Community Service last month to send a fax and ended up saving a lot of money.

West saw a form for the Soldiers and Sailors Relief Act at the front desk and hooked up with Ann Owens, Personal Financial Readiness Program manager, who gave him a form letter to complete and send to his creditors.

"I got three credit cards while I was a freshman in college," said West, stationed at Redstone to finish his bachelor's degree at Alabama A&M University through a special naval degree completion program. "I maxed them out, about \$4,000 and the interest rate was killing me — anywhere from 19 to 24 percent interest. I've been paying the minimum payment and not getting anywhere."

Since the debt was incurred in 1999, before West enlisted in the Navy, he was eligible for an interest rate reduction under the Soldiers and Sailors Relief Act, which mandates that creditors reduce interest rates to 6 percent or less for the duration of military service obligation, for debts incurred prior to military service activation. It also provides eviction protection for a service-member and/or his family if his assigned duties materially affect his ability to pay rent.

"I faxed them a letter and a copy of my orders coming into the military and a week later, two of them dropped the interest rate to zero percent and the other one was down to 5.99," West said. "I didn't expect them to



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

REDUCED RATES— Thanks to financial counseling from Ann Owens, Dondi West, officer candidate with the Navy, and his wife Portia, got their credit card interest rates reduced to less than 6 percent.

respond that fast. I expected them to argue with me. I've been active duty three years. I thought it was something you had to do right away when you joined."

West expects to have all the cards paid off within the next year, something very important for him because his credit and debt are considered when applying for a security clearance, something he will need to be a naval officer.

"We tell soldiers about the Soldiers and Sailors Relief Act in pre-deployment briefings and new AIT soldiers — it's covered in their ACS briefing," said Kristi Foster,

Army Emergency Relief officer, who works closely with Owens at ACS. "But they're getting so much information at once, it's hard for them to remember everything."

Not surprising to Owens, financial planning is not always first on the to-do list for soldiers. Many times she doesn't see them until they've hit a financial crisis.

"You should really check your budget and spending on a quarterly basis," Owens said. "Come in and see me anytime, not just when things are rough. If you do that, it may keep you from getting into financial hardship. I work with people on an individual basis. We look at debt and spending and put together a budget that will help people with short term and long term goals, things like saving up for new furniture or a car."

Owens is also conducting a Personal Financial Readiness Training course June 2-3 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at ACS to "help people learn how to budget, save, invest and plan for retirement now."

"People with 10 years in are halfway through their Army careers," Owens said. "You should be looking toward retirement and a second career. Most soldiers who retire with 20 years service retire in their 30s. They still have 30 years of work and they need to have a plan ahead of time."

Owens encourages people to put their financial specifics on paper, something to remind them of long-term goals and the value of budgeting.

"It's important for couples to get counseling and attend these classes together," she said. "So that both know what's going on financially and in case one gets deployed, the other one already has a handle on the finances. It also helps them to work together toward their goals."

To register for the class, call 876-5397 by May 28. The course is free and child care will be provided.

Project officers cook up lower tier picnic

Civilian staffers honored for supporting Patriot

By PAM ROGERS
For the Rocket

It's Army tradition for officers to show appreciation to the troops by cooking and serving a special meal for them. That's just what happened May 1 when the officers of the Lower Tier Air and Missile Defense Project Office cooked for everyone. But in this case, the "troops" were all the civilian staff members who put in long hours and went to great lengths to support the Patriot system during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The officers donned aprons and fired up grills to cook hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken and ribs for the occasion. One, Capt. James McLinnaham, did a great deal of planning, and even stopped off on his way to Afghanistan to participate, according to Lt. Col. Pat Sutherland of the LTPO.

"He and (Maj.) Calvin Mitchell pulled it all together with the help of some of the civilians," he said. "We had to have it close by because our folks couldn't afford to be away from the office."

When businesses in town found out that the picnic was for people who supported the Patriot system, there were many offers for donations of food and gift cards to pay for food, Mitchell said.

Many of the LTPO workers who attended the event mentioned that the LTPO is more like a family than a typical office, and this event was just another example of the close working relationship they all enjoy.

The day began with an awards ceremony that included the usual assortment of special recognitions, plus one very special one for the sportsmen in the office. Maj. Greg Franks, Mike Whitt and Dan Beck, all turkey hunters who have apparently had more enthusiasm than luck this season, were presented with a special "frozen turkey award" complete with cooler by Col. Tom Newberry, LTPO project manager.

"It was a wonderful event, with all the camaraderie," Whitt said. "I thought the turkey award was hilarious. It just shows

the kind of family environment the leadership has established. This is an absolutely wonderful place to work."



Courtesy photo

REVELERS— From left are Insuk Sikler, Col. Tom Newberry, Carla Newberry and So Hui Smith.



Thomas Tucker/SC CPOC

Union contract

Jim Brothers, president of the American Federation of Government Employees Local 1858, signs the first collective bargaining agreement for bargaining unit employees in the South Central Civilian Personnel Operations Center. Also signing the agreement May 9 were David Brooks, director of SC CPOC; Billy Clemons, union chief negotiator; Ashley Tyson, SC CPOC chief negotiator; Brooks Woerner, Civilian Personnel Advisory Center; and Tim Grey, director, Personnel and Training Directorate. The SC CPOC unit was established Aug. 10, 2001 and negotiations leading to the agreement began Oct. 29, 2001.

■ Retroactive adjustment takes time to finish

Pay

continued from page 2

For CPOCs, processing of the retroactive transactions has begun now that the necessary salary tables have been loaded in the Defense Civilian Personnel Data System.

Department of Army employs a wide variety of employees in various pay plans, occupational series, geographic locations, etc., all of which impact the

benefits, entitlements and pay of each employee as a group or often individually. This involves a labor intense process and results in a variety of situations and processes as well as individual circumstances to consider.

Due to volume and processes involved in completing the retroactive 1 percent pay adjustment and intervening transactions, it may take several pay periods for the CPOCs to complete the total process. Some employees have gotten an initial

increase on one paycheck and will see an additional increase on later paychecks. This is part of the normal process involved in executing retroactive personnel actions.

During this time frame, your servicing CPOC will be working not only to complete all retroactive processing but to process current personnel transactions within a timely and efficient manner.

We ask employees to refrain from contacting customer service representative, CPAC, and CPOC representatives on matters relating to the processing or receipt of

retroactive payments until June 27.

After June 27, employees should contact his/her CSR to determine what action, if any, is necessary.

The overall goal of everyone involved in this process is to work efficiently and expeditiously so that all employees receive monies they are due as soon as possible. Your cooperation in this effort is sincerely appreciated.

Tim Grey
director,
Personnel and Training Directorate

■ Target Stores pledge support for veterans

Support

continued from page 2

spend my hard earned money in their stores?

Dick Forrey
Vietnam Veterans Association

Editor's note: Target Stores headquarters provided the following response. "Target is owned by Target Corporation, a company based in Minneapolis, Minn., since its founding by George Dayton in 1902. Unfortunately, a letter has been circulating via e-mail for nearly a year that misrepresents Target's support of veterans. Due to the nature of the Internet and e-mail communication, this false information has been perpetuated and modified many times by unknown writers. In fact, the

National Veterans of Foreign Wars posted a press release on their web site Dec. 6, 2002 to help clarify this issue at <http://www.vfw.org/news/target.htm>.

"Target Corporation does support our veterans and is grateful for the efforts of our men and women in uniform. In fact, for years Target has donated funds and volunteer hours to local and national veteran and military organizations around the country.

"For example, Target is a sponsor of the national 2003 tour of 'The Wall that Heals,' a Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund outreach initiative that honors our veterans and has a strong educational component for schools. For more information, please visit the web site at <http://www.vvmf.org/travelingwall/index.html>.

"Target Corporation also counts many veterans and military reservists

among its more than 300,000 team members nationwide. To help support these team members, Target Corporation provides benefits for activated reservists, including pay differential, that surpass those benefits required by law. The Reserve Officers Association has recognized our company for these benefits. The Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve also lists Target on their web site at <http://www.esgr.org/employers/outstandingEmployers.asp>.

"In addition to supporting veteran and military organizations on a national scale, we also support local organizations, including: Eastern Paralyzed Veterans Association in Jackson Heights, N.Y.; Hays County Veterans in San Marcos, Texas; Kenny Nickelson Memorial Foundation for Homeless Veterans in Manhattan Beach, Calif.; Disabled American Veterans Auxiliaries in Allen Park, Mich., and Santa Fe Springs, Calif.; Yankee Air Force Muse-

um in Ypsilanti, Mich.; and Department of the Army (Fort Hood, Texas).

"Target gives to diverse causes that reflect all types of guests in a wide variety of communities. Any non-profit organization may apply for a grant. In general, the organization's program or service to be funded by the grant should meet our giving guidelines related to arts, education and family violence prevention. While every cause is worthy, Target is unable to grant funds or partner with every organization. For more information that describes the guidelines and the application process, visit any Target store and ask for the grants brochure or go to target.com and click on 'Community Giving.'

"Thank you again for taking the time to inquire about this issue. We wholeheartedly support our veterans and active duty personnel. We appreciate the opportunity to personally convey our commitment to you, and hope you will share our information with anyone who has contacted you about this issue."

Delta Company stops Bravo winning streak



Photo by Skip Vaughn

PRACTICE JAM— Bravo's Carlos Serra, left, and Matthew Charland try to block the spike from teammate Chris Thomas (3).

Troop volleyball teams finishing regular season

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.v Vaughn@redstone.army.mil

Bravo Company's volleyball team started the season's second half on a roll but something was missing.

The Bulldogs still hadn't beaten first-place Delta Company.

"We've gotten everybody else," Bravo coach Cristy McIntosh said. "That's the one team we're hoping to win against."

Bravo couldn't do it Thursday. Delta (11-1) snapped the Bulldogs' five-game winning streak 25-22, 25-10 at Pagano Gym.

Led by setter Aladino Perez, Bravo (8-4) won two of its three matches last week. The Bulldogs beat Headquarters & Alpha 25-20, 25-19; and won by forfeit over AMCOM.

"We've got really good teamwork,"

McIntosh said.

The post championship double-elimination tournament will start May 27 at 6 p.m. at Pagano Gym. Standings entering this fifth and final week of the regular season included Delta (11-1), HHC 59th (9-3), Headquarters & Alpha (9-3), Bravo (8-4), Marines (4-7), NCO Academy (3-8), AMCOM (2-9) and Charlie (0-11).

Here are last week's results:

May 12 — Marines won by forfeit over Charlie; Bravo d. Headquarters & Alpha 25-20, 25-19; and Delta d. AMCOM 25-20, 25-14.

May 13 — Headquarters & Alpha d. NCO Academy 25-23, 25-15; Delta won by forfeit over Charlie; and HHC 59th won by forfeit over AMCOM.

May 14 — Bravo won by forfeit over AMCOM; HHC 59th d. Headquarters & Alpha 25-22, 25-15; and Delta d. NCO Academy 25-11, 25-7.

May 15 — Headquarters & Alpha d. Marines 25-11, 25-20; HHC 59th d. Charlie 25-17, 25-16; and Delta d. Bravo 25-22, 25-10.

Fort Sill team legs out second place in marathon relay

FORT SILL, Okla. — The 2nd Battalion, 80th Field Artillery sponsored a running team in the Oklahoma City Marathon, April 27.

It did better than just finish.

The five soldiers, each running part of the course, finished the relay in 3:07:54 for second place in their division of eight teams.

The 2-80th FA paid their entrance fees. The team was headed up by CWO 4 Harry Hobbs, commander of Ordnance Training Detachment.

Hobbs ran the 10 kilometer (6.2 mile) leg, PFC Eric Deitrick did 3 kilometers, Pvt. Christopher Hughes (10 km), Pvt. Anthony Hughes (3 km) and Pvt. Brian Masters (12.2 km). The team was supported by

SSgt. John Furlow who ensured all the runners were at the relay handoff points along the course and also acted as the team photographer.

Hobbs' four teammates are Advance Individual Training students at Fort Sill attending the 33-week Radar Repairer course. They are in school for nearly a year as they started their training at Redstone Arsenal and finish at Fort Sill. The soldiers belong to C Battery, 2nd Battalion, 80th Field Artillery, commanded by Capt. Steve Park.

Hobbs designed a special program for novice runners preparing for a major race. The group trained for the marathon for five weeks. The AIT students did this while also learning one

of the most complex and intense specialties in the Army. The training program followed Hobbs' motto, "You can't win if you don't do the miles." Hobbs was the only member of the team with any racing experience in any type of marathon competition.

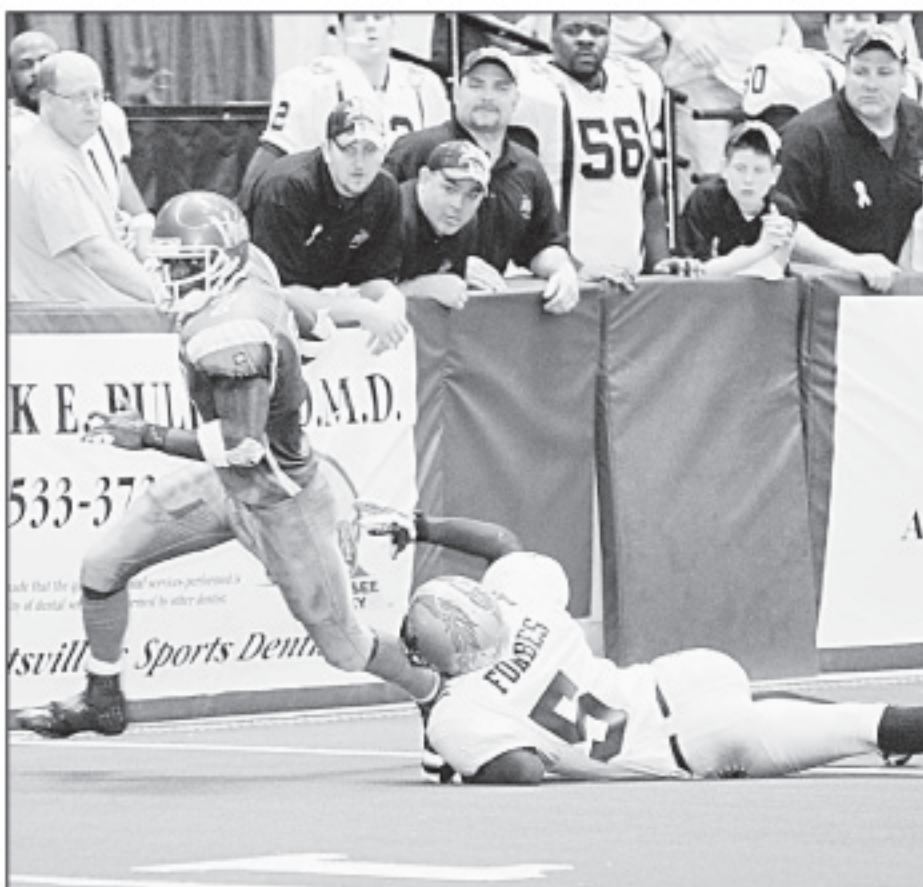
Hundreds of teams were actually entered in the race competing in various group competitions. The soldiers received their team trophy and individual medals from Frank Shorter, 1976 Olympic gold medalist in the marathon.

"I am proud of their accomplishment and their will to excel and represent the United States Army in such a positive way at an event such as the Oklahoma City Marathon," Park said. "Kudos to them all!"



Photo by SSgt. John Furlow

MARATHON MEN— From left are Pvt. Anthony Hughes, Pvt. Brian Masters, CWO 4 Harry Hobbs, PFC Eric Deitrick and Pvt. Christopher Hughes.



Courtesy photo

Viper breaks loose

Jerrian James races upfield for the Tennessee Valley Vipers arena 2 football team. Military ID holders can present their identification for free admission on Military Appreciation Night this Saturday at the Von Braun Center as the Vipers face the Cape Fear Wildcats. Game time is 7:30 p.m. For more information, call the Vipers office 551-3240.

Announcements



Sports & Recreation

Conference golf tourney

In conjunction with the Army T&E Days 2003 Conference, a golf tournament will be held June 3 at 8 a.m. at the Canebrake Country Club in Athens. Fee is \$60. Registration information is on the web site: www.testevaldays.com or call Sherry Hilley 842-6715.

Golf sweepstakes

The U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center, event sponsor, and Redstone Golf Course are hosting a spring golf driving range promotion, "Lucky Bucket Sweepstakes," through June 30. The promotion is targeted at all ages and skill levels. Winners must be authorized MWR patrons — active/retired/ Guard/ Reserve military, DoD/ NASA civilian or contractor and dependents. Two "Great Golf Escape" vacation packages will be randomly drawn Armywide at the end of the nine-week promotion. In addition, instant prizes are awarded on the spot when you find the red "lucky" ball in your bucket of driving range balls. The more you participate, the greater your chances are of winning. Call 883-7977 for more information.

Youth golf clinic

Registration is under way for the Youth Services Golf Clinic. You may register your child Monday through Friday, 7 a.m.

to 4:30 p.m. at building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road. Golf Clinics will be held June 2-6 and June 16-20 from 9 to 11 a.m. followed by course Play Days each Thursday until school begins. The instructor is Chip Enlow, PGA pro. Price per child is \$50, plus annual central enrollment fee of \$15 if not already registered. Clinic space is limited to the first 50 youth registered per clinic. This is open to the entire Redstone community. Call 876-3704 or 313-3699 for more information.

Alabama sports festival

Registration is under way for the 2003 Alabama Sports Festival XXI State Games, June 26-29 in Huntsville. Opening ceremonies are June 27 at 7 p.m. in the Von Braun Center. "This is Alabama's largest, Olympic-style, multisport event for amateur athletes of any age or skill level," a prepared release said. For more information, visit the festival's web site at www.alagames.com or call (800) 467-0422.

Vipers night

The Tennessee Valley Vipers arena 2 football team will host Military Appreciation Night, Saturday at the Von Braun Center. Military ID holders can present their ID at the VBC ticket office anytime during the day of the game for free admission. The Vipers' Military Appreciation Night will also include military displays in the area between the Von Braun Center's South Hall and arena. Saturday's game against the Cape Fear Wildcats begins at 7:30

p.m. For more information, call the Vipers' Office 551-3240.

Swimming lessons

Swimming lessons will be offered this summer at Redstone swimming pools. Registration continues today for active duty families at Pool 3 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. The rest of the Redstone community may register Thursday at the same time and location. There are eight lessons in a two-week session and each session is \$15. For more information, call Outdoor Recreation 876-6854 or 876-4868.

Swimming pools

The Redstone swimming pools will open Saturday at 11 a.m. Pools will be open all week somewhere on the Arsenal; however, they each close one day per week for maintenance. Pool 1 (Vincent Drive) will be closed Mondays; Pool 2 (Challenger Community Activity Center) will be closed Tuesdays; and Pool 3 (Goss Road) will be closed Wednesdays. The pools will be open from 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. Swim passes are available at Outdoor Recreation, building 5129, from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily or at the Recreation Center, building 3711, from 1:30-8 p.m. Tuesday through Friday or 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Season passes are available. Family Season passes are \$45 and individual passes \$35. Daily rate for non-season pass holders is \$2 each visit as you enter the pool area. For more information, call 876-6854/4868.

Speedway special

Huntsville Speedway and the NASCAR Dodge Weekly Series will open the gates Friday at 6 p.m. to all members of American Legion Post 237. Any member of Post 237 will be admitted free to the special Memorial Racing Events. For more information, call 882-9191.

Singles golf association

The Huntsville chapter of the American Singles Golf Association will hold an organizational meeting June 12 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Logan's Roadhouse in Huntsville. For more information, call Lori Crider 464-7945.



Conferences & Meetings

Test and evaluation days

The Test and Evaluation Management Agency will sponsor its sixth Army T&E Days 2003 — "Building Test Capabilities for the Future: Supporting FCS, The Objective Force, and the Next Generation Army" — on June 3-5 at the South Hall of the Von Braun Center. Scheduled speakers include Claude Bolton Jr., ASA(ALT); Walter Hollis, DUSA(OR); Maj. Gen. Robert Armbruster, CG ATEC; Dennis



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Duke retiring

Betty Duke of Civilian Personnel Advisory Center is retiring May 26 after 33 years. "I'm excited," she said.

Mullenburg, vice president-FCS, Boeing; and Lt. Gen. Joseph Cosumano, commander of SMD. Mike Durant, author of the recently released book "In the Company of Heroes," will be at the conference June 5 from 1:30-2:30 p.m. at the ITEA Exhibit Booth in the South Hall. An exposition will be held in conjunction with the conference. Government and industry organizations are encouraged to participate in the exposition. Registration is \$325 (form is on web site) and is in TIP. For more information, call Mike McFalls 876-3462 or Sherry Hilley 842-6715. The web site is www.testevaldays.com.

Officers association

The Military Officers Association of America, formerly The Retired Officers Association, will hold its informal monthly breakfast Saturday at 8:30 a.m. in the Redstone Golf Clubhouse. All active, retired and former officers, their spouses and widows, of all branches of service, are invited. For more information, call retired CWO 4 Aniceto Bagley 852-7973.

Federally employed women

The North Alabama Chapter of Federally Employed Women will hold its monthly meeting today at 11 a.m. in the banquet room at Papa Lovetti's Restaurant on University Drive. Lunch will be served from the buffet at the regular luncheon cost. The meeting is open to government and private sector employees who support the goals and objectives of the organization. For more information call Meg Lipsey 955-6262, ext. 112, or Mary Peoples 955-4275.

Parent advisory group

Parent Advisory Committee will meet May 27 at 11 a.m. at the Challenger building. For more information, call 876-3704/7952.

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Blacks in government

The Huntsville-Madison County Chapter of Blacks In Government will hold a general membership meeting May 27 at 11 a.m. at Papa Lovetti's Restaurant banquet room. Cost for lunch from the buffet is \$6.67 each. For more information, call Mary Peoples 955-4275.



Miscellaneous

Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping Wednesdays 9-5, Thursdays and Fridays from 9-4. Walk-in consignment hours are Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9-12:30. Appointments are Wednesdays and Thursdays 12:30-3. Donations are accepted and tax slips are available. The shop is now accepting handmade craft items for consignment. The shop seeks volunteers. For more information, call 881-6992.

Butler High reunions

Butler High class of 1983 will have its 20-year reunion Aug. 29-30. For information call Tammy 721-2246 or Kelly 829-1427. Butler's classes of 1968 and 1969 are having their 34th and 35th year reunion June 20-21; and for more information call Jeannie Sharpe King 772-1963 or Robin Hall Brewer 325-1018.

Lee High reunion

Lee High class of 1973 will have its 30-year reunion July 11-12. For information call Bob Mathis (256) 519-7674 or Teresa Walker Beasley (931) 937-8504.

Motorcycle safety course

The Department of Defense and Department of Army require all soldiers who

operate motorcycles either on or off post to have satisfactorily completed an approved Motorcycle Safety Course. This requirement also applies to all individuals who operate a motorcycle on DoD installations. Motorcyclists will be required to show proof of meeting this requirement when registering or renewing a motorcycle on Redstone Arsenal. The Experienced Rider Course is scheduled June 14 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. This training will be provided free of cost for military and DoD civilians. To qualify for the ERC, a rider must have at least one year experience and have ridden more than 1,000 miles. These requirements are reduced to six months and 500 miles if the rider has completed a Basic Rider Course. Individuals under 18 must have a parent or legal guardian sign a required waiver form before starting the course. Riders must bring a valid driver license with motorcycle endorsement to the course. Enrollees must provide a street-legal motorcycle which will need to pass an inspection by the rider coaches. The inspection includes tires and wheels, controls, lights, oil, chassis and kickstand. Motorcycles should be properly insured. Class participants should also provide their own helmet and all required safety gear. To register for the course, call Bryan Lorge 842-8622.

Association scholarship

The Army Space and Missile Defense Association will award a \$1,000 scholarship in August. Applications are due by July 15. For more information, call Bob Belton of Quantum Research International 971-1800, ext. 257.

Logistics course

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of the International Society of Logistics is offering a

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Courtesy photo

Dinner guests

From left are Marvin Kalachman, Sandy Kalachman, PFC Aimee Masten, PFC Jessica Sears and Adam Kalachman. Masten and Sears were the local family's guests April 17 for Passover Seder, a special dinner where the story of Passover is retold. "We felt that giving soldiers an invitation to join us for dinner is a way to show our gratitude to the many soldiers that miss the comforts of home," Marvin Kalachman said.

Announcements

50-hour Logistics Management course. The course provides a comprehensive review of logistics, preparing interested students for the next CPL exam scheduled Nov. 1. For more information, call Joyce Bilodeau 842-9968.

Summer reading program

Child and Youth Services sponsors "Heating It Up With Books at Redstone," a summer reading program, through July 31. Children of active duty, retired and Guard/Reserve military, DoD, Army, Redstone/NASA contractors and dependents may participate. Trophies will be awarded to the top readers. For more information, visit www.redstonemwr.com or call Pam Berry 955-6309.

Car safety

Mike James, lead child passenger safety instructor in Alabama, is to present "Car Safety for Traveling Families," today from 11 a.m. to noon at the Redstone room in building 1500. Attendees will receive parent participation points. For more information, call 876-2798.

Gifts for military

Spencer's Infant and Children's Clothing Company is partnering with the American Red Cross Armed Forces Emergency Services to offer a complete layette set to babies born since Sept. 11, who are children of military service personnel deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The layettes will include a variety of infant apparel appropriate for

the age and size of each baby receiving the gift. To qualify for this gift, the servicemember must be or have been deployed overseas or aboard a ship at sea directly supporting Operation Enduring Freedom and Kuwait, (Camp Doha, or Saudi Arabia, PSAB), the Caucus region (Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Pakistan, or the Philippines). Spencer's is also making a layette gift available to the widows of military members killed at the Pentagon who have since delivered their babies. For more information call Debbie Jones at Spencer's (336) 789-9111, ext. 272, or Dessie Johnson at the local Red Cross chapter 536-0084.

Newcomer orientation

Learn about Redstone Arsenal by attending the Army Community Service Newcomers' Orientation at 8:30 a.m. June 3 at building 3338. The orientation features speakers, information booths, refreshments, and a bus tour of Redstone Arsenal. Participants receive Morale, Welfare and Recreation bucks redeemable at MWR activities. Attendance is mandatory for active duty personnel permanently stationed at Redstone Arsenal. Spouses are encouraged to attend. Free child care is offered. For more information, call Mary Breeden 876-5397.

Best yards

Yard of the Month winners for May include: Area 1, Columbia Centre — SFC Peter P. Perkins, 514-B Walnut Circle; Area 2, Challenger Heights — SFC

Thomas J. Perkins, 1011 Buffington Road; Area 3, Saturn Pointe — Col. John B. Smith, 3 Wadsworth Drive; Area 4, Endeavor Village — CPO Michael Ashton, 616 Wesson Court; Area 5, Freedom Landing — SFC Andre Orr, 445 Rice Drive; Area 6, Voyager Village — Sgt. Christopher B. Hudson, 307 Hughes Drive; Area 10A, Apollo Landing — SSgt. Ronnie W. Yates, 475-B Cooke Drive; and Area 10B, Pathfinder Pointe — Maj. Danny A. Wiley, 494 Cooke Drive. The unit winner is building 3410, Charlie Company.

Youth sponsorship

Youth Sponsorship Training will be held on the first Tuesday of each month from 4-4:30 p.m. at the Youth Center, building 3148. Youth (grades 6-12) that would like to become a Youth Sponsor or youth that have recently moved to the Redstone community are invited. For more information, call Pam Berry 955-6309.

Distinctive unit crest

The Installation Management Agency provides the following information on its distinctive unit crest. "Scarlet is the color traditionally used by support units, with which the Installation Management Agency is associated," the IMA web site states. "The chain links signify durability, which the ring denotes continuous service. The com-

bination of the chain links and ring symbolize the Installation Management Agency's continuous worldwide support to all the soldiers, civilians, their families and units. The swords refer to teamwork and the focus on preparing and training soldiers for combat — to defend and protect. Yellow reflects the high honor and values of IMA. Green, associated with the agency's parent organization — Assistant Chief of Staff or Installation Management — represents the IMA's stewardship of installations. Black reflects the agency's determination to execute their missions to support the garrisons throughout the regions."

Aeronautics institute

American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Alabama-Mississippi Section will have its awards dinner Thursday at the Radisson Suite Hotel, 6000 South Memorial Parkway. Social hour starts at 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6:15. There will be presentation of 2003 section awards and installation of officers. Cost is \$20, \$10 for students. For information call Tom Hancock 722-5555 or 961-4002.

Stamp show

The Huntsville Philatelic Club will hold its 36th annual stamp show May 31 to

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Photo by Skip Vaughn

Special feeling

Michelle Cobb, a management analyst at Resource Management Directorate, found her desk decorated by her co-workers for her 40th birthday May 19. "I feel loved and special," she quipped.

Announcements

June 1 at the Tom Beville Center on the University of Alabama-Huntsville campus. Huntspex 2003 will honor the 50th anniversary of the first launch of the Redstone Rocket, a liquid-fueled rocket developed in the U.S. using German V-2 technology. Admission to the show is free; and there will be a large area of stamp collection exhibits and dealer booths.

Fox Army Health Center

Fox Army Health Center announces holiday hours for Memorial Day. The Primary Care Extended Hours Clinic will be open from 8 a.m. to noon Friday, Saturday and Monday, May 23, 24, and 26 for scheduled appointments. All other clinics will be closed. The health center is closed Sundays. The pharmacy will be open regular hours, 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., May 23 and closed May 26. Advice nurses are available 24 hours a day at 955-8888 or 1-800-223-9531 to provide care advice and schedule urgent care appointments. Access to the building may be gained through the Pharmacy entrance on the south side.

Smoking cessation

Learn tips to help you stop smoking in this eight-week program offering noon and evening classes, sponsored by Fox Army Health Center and held in the Public Health and Education classroom. A new class starts on the third Tuesday of every month. For more information and registration call 955-8888, extension 1026.

Alumni scholarship

The North Alabama University of Missouri-Rolla Alumni Section announces that Mitchell Graves of Clarksdale, Miss., has been selected as the 2003 recipient of the alumni scholarship. This is an annual scholarship awarded by each alumni section used to promote the university in various regions of the country. The North Alabama section includes Alabama, Mississippi and southern Tennessee. "We would like to take this time to congratulate Mitchell Graves on his selection and hope he has a great college experience at UMR," a prepared release said.

Military pay office

Open season for Uniformed Services TSP enrollment started April 15 and will end June 30. For more information please visit the TSP web site at www.tsp.gov. The Mid-Month Net Pay Advice Statements will no longer be automatically printed out beginning with the June 15 pay period. Units wishing to receive the statements should contact the military pay office by the 10th of each month to give it sufficient time to have them printed and distributed to your unit. This change should not affect soldiers who have an active myPay account which allows online viewing and printing of the Leave and Earnings Statement as well as NPAS.... Because of the recent loss of personnel, the military pay office is making some changes to its customer service procedures. These changes should

enhance and refine the customer service process. Soldiers will be serviced by appointment. The appointments should be made through the PAC who will then contact the appropriate military pay section to schedule the appointment. A DA Form 2142 should be completed and given to the servicing clerk at the time of the appointment. E-5s and below need the commander's signature on the DA 2142. Exceptions are emergency-pay-situations and no-pay-due cases. For these situations, call the military pay team leader 876-6147 or the main customer service line 876-8510. Hours of operation are 8:45-11 a.m. and 1-2:30 p.m. The office is closed Thursday afternoons for training.

Astronomical society

Members of the Von Braun Astronomical Society will explore "Stone Circles of the British Isles." Dr. Rob Suggs, Dr. Tom Sever and Mitzi Adams will examine some of these Neolithic cornerstones of recorded time Saturday at 7:30 p.m. at the Wernher Von Braun Planetarium in Monte Sano State Park. For non-members, admission is \$3 for adults and \$2 for children 12 and under. Weather permitting, a star party, using the big VBAS telescopes, will follow. For more information, call Adams 961-7626.

Flying activity

The Redstone Arsenal Flying Activity will be have its annual Open House, May 31 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is free.

There will be mini flying lessons for \$25 for adults and \$20 for children 12 and under. For more information, call 881-3980 or 880-9495.

Parent and child classes

"Mommy and Me" classes are for you and your toddler ages 18 months through 3 years. Each class will focus on parent-child bonding with an emphasis on rhythm and movement. Class activities promote hand-eye coordination, motor skill development and balance. Cost is \$20 per month and classes will be held each Tuesday at the Youth Center, building 3148, from 10:15-11 a.m. beginning June 3. This class is open to the entire Redstone community, including contractors. To enroll go to or call CYS Central Enrollment at building 1500 Weeden Mountain Road, phone 313-3699 or 876-3704.

PX news

Post Exchange hours for Memorial Day, May 26 include: Main Store, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; concessions, closed; GNC, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; mall barbershop, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; beauty shop, closed; cellular service, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; furniture store, closed; one-stop Goss Road, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; service station, closed; Burger King, closed; military clothing, closed; barbershop at building 3479, closed; food court — Anthony's, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Cinnabon, closed; Baskin Robins, closed; Robin Hood, closed; and Church's, closed.



Bob Whistine/Army Materiel Command

Repair shop

Cpl. Michael Casey, left, and SSgt. David Delcambre, avionics mechanics with the 1108th AVCRAD, Gulfport, Miss., clean and inspect an electronic countermeasure device at their Forward Repair Activity in Southwest Asia.



Courtesy Photo

Military Day

Liberty Middle School students enjoy Military Day festivities Friday complete with an AH-64A Apache from R Company, 4th Squadron, 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment, Tennessee National Guard. CWO 2 Mike Sturtevant, on the aircraft, and CWO 3 Todd Wright flew the helicopter in for the school event from Smyrna. The festivities were sponsored by the Tennessee Valley Chapter, Army Aviation Association of America.

ARMY POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS REDSTONE ARSENAL AND HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA AREA

ANNOUNCEMENT#	POSITION TITLE	CLOSING	ORGANIZATION	PAY PLAN	GRADE	POT	PAY RANGE	WHO CAN APPLY																									
		DATE	LOCATION	S. SERIES	LEVEL	GRD	(FROM - TO)	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U					
THE FOLLOWING ARMY ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL																																	
00BK01832492K2	Human Resources Spec	21-May-03	CPAC PT	GS-0301	7	11	31,956 - 61,494	X																									
00BK001831186	Secretary (DA)	21-May-03	CPAC Huntsville	GS-0311	9	9	29,800 - 33,599	X																									
00BK001792566R	Supply Log Maint Spec	21-May-03	LOGSA	GS-2346	13	13	66,813 - 86,859	X																									
00BK001828079	Int Progn Maint Spec	22-May-03	RAMD	GS-0301	9	9	39,092 - 50,820	X																									
00BK00174666	Human Resources Spec (Labor Relations)	23-May-03	CPAC PT	GS-0301	13	13	67,413 - 87,640	X																									
00BK001811288	Program Analyst	23-May-03	MMMC	GS-0343	12	12	55,690 - 73,697	X																									
00BK0184207PQ2	Secretary (QA)	23-May-03	AMRDEC	GS-0311	3	3	31,956 - 46,012	X																									
00BK001774694	Management Analyst	23-May-03	SMDC	GS-0343	12	12	55,690 - 73,697	X																									
00BK001828272K2	Security Asst Integrator	23-May-03	PICO Aviation	GS-0301	13	13	67,413 - 87,640	X																									
00BK01792566R	Lead General Engineer	28-May-03	AMRDEC	GS-0301	4	4	29,800 - 33,599	X																									
00BK001811988	Systems Support Spec	28-May-03	LOGSA	GS-0301	15	15	93,705 - 121,817	X																									
00BK01829609W1	Electronic Engineer	31-May-03	SMDC	GS-0301	14	14	79,863 - 103,594	X																									
00BK001851957	Human Resources Spec (Communications)	2-Jun-03	CPAC PT	GS-0301	11	11	47,299 - 61,454	X																									
00BK00182954	Human Resources Spec (Military)	2-Jun-03	PTSD	GS-0301	5	11	25,800 - 35,360	X																									
00BK00184332	Lead Log Maint Spec	2-Jun-03	MMMC	GS-0346	13	13	66,813 - 86,859	X																									
00BK00177226	Log Maint Spec	2-Jun-03	LOGSA	GS-0346	13	13	66,813 - 86,859	X																									
00BK00190017	Space Systems Analyst	2-Jun-03	SMDC	GS-0301	13	13	67,413 - 87,640	X																									
AC-03-3721	Public Affairs Specialist	3-Jun-03	Huntsville, AL	GS-1035	7	9	31,956 - 46,012	X																									
00BK01828450W1	Lead General Engineer	3-Jun-03	SMDC	GS-0301	14	14	79,863 - 103,594	X																									
00BK01825609W1	Electronic Engineer	3-Jun-03	SMDC	GS-0301	14	14	79,863 - 103,594	X																									
00BK01851174W1	General Engineer	3-Jun-03	SMDC	GS-0301	14	14	79,863 - 103,594	X																									
00BK0184050W1	General Engineer	3-Jun-03	SMDC	GS-0301	14	14	79,863 - 103,594	X																									
00BK001831549	Program Analyst	3-Jun-03	ACG PED	GS-0343	14	14	79,863 - 103,594	X																									
00BK001833327	Supply Log Maint Spec	3-Jun-03	PICO Aviation	NH-0346	4	4	29,800 - 33,599	X																									
00BK001773399	Program Manager	13-Jun-03	CPAC Huntsville	GS-0340	14	14	79,863 - 103,594	X																									
00BK0177510W1Z	Program Manager (Prototype Integration)	13-Jun-03	AMRDEC	GS-0340	5	5	23,705 - 121,817	X																									
00BK01775370D2	Lead General Engineer	13-Jun-03	AMRDEC	GS-0340	4	4	29,800 - 33,599	X																									
MD-DH-02-0685	Audiologist/Speech Pathologist	30-Sep-03	MECOCOM	GS-0665	11-13	13	44,655 - 58,770	X																									
MD-DH-02-0683	Dental Lab Technician	30-Sep-03	MECOCOM	GS-0663	5-7	7	25,497 - 42,983	X																									
MD-DH-02-0683	Physician's Assistant	30-Sep-03	MECOCOM	GS-0663	11-13	13	44,655 - 58,770	X																									
MD-DH-02-0682	Dental Hygienist	30-Sep-03	MECOCOM	GS-0662	5-7	7	25,497 - 42,983	X																									
MD-DH-02-0681	Dental Assistant	30-Sep-03	MECOCOM	GS-0661	5-7	7	25,497 - 42,983	X																									
MD-DH-02-0680	Dental Officer	30-Sep-03	MECOCOM	GS-0660	12	12	55,690 - 73,697	X																									
MD-DH-02-0677	Optometrist	30-Sep-03	MECOCOM	GS-0662	11-13	13	44,655 - 58,770	X																									
MD-DH-02-0669	Podiatrist	30-Sep-03	MECOCOM	GS-0669	11-13	13	44,655 - 58,770	X																									
MD-DH-02-0619	Registered Nurse	30-Sep-03	MECOCOM	GS-0619	8-12	12	35,538 - 74,546	X																									
MD-03-0693	Medical Technologist/CVDR	31-Dec-03	MECOCOM	GS-0644	7-10	11-12	31,956 - 79,748	X																									
MD-03-0672	Social Worker	31-Dec-03	MECOCOM	GS-0644	9-11	12	36,586 - 72,747	X																									
MD-03-0692	Counseling Psychologist	31-Dec-03	MECOCOM	GS-0692	9-11	12	36,586 - 72,747	X																									
00BK001471260D	General Engr Civil Engr Architect Mech Engr Elect Engr	31-Dec-03	Snichovky, Kurgan, Regn en Russia	GS-0301	15	15	93,705 - 110,882	X																									
00BK001527239	Architect	2-Jun-04	CPAC Huntsville	GS-0301	11	12	47,299 - 70,641	X																									
THE FOLLOWING OPMDS ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.USAAJORS.OPM.GOV																																	
X-JB-03-5214-RD	Electrical Engineer	23-May-03	Office Sec of Army	GS-0350	2	3	25,800 - 31,494	X																									
00BK0177301W1	Security Asst Integrator	23-May-03	Office Sec of Army	GS-0301	13	13	67,413 - 87,640	X																									
X-AO-03-5036-RD	Mechanical Engineer	28-May-03	Office Sec of Army	GS-0630	14	14	79,863 - 103,594	X																									
X-AO-03-5036-RD	Environmental Engineer	28-May-03	Office Sec of Army	GS-0619	14	14	79,863 - 103,594	X																									
X-AO-03-5036-RD	Electrical Engineer	28-May-03	Office Sec of Army	GS-0650	14	14	79,863 - 103,594	X																									
X-AO-03-5036-RD	Civil Engineer	28-May-03	Office Sec of Army	GS-0610	14	14	79,863 - 103,594	X																									
X-AO-03-5036-RD	Chemical Engineer	28-May-03	Office Sec of Army	GS-0690	14	14	79,863 - 103,594	X																									
X-AO-03-5036-RD	Architect	28-May-03	Office Sec of Army	GS-0608	14	14	79,863 - 103,594	X																									
X-SP-03-5155-ST	Systems Support Spec	30-May-03	Office Sec of Army	GS-0301	15	15	93,705 - 121,817	X																									
X-LW-03-5188-SP	General Engineer	30-May-03	Office Sec of Army	GS-0301	4	4	29,800 - 33,599	X																									
X-SP-03-5211-ST	Supply Log Maint Spec	3-Jun-03	Office Sec of Army	NH-0306	4	4	29,800 - 33,599	X																									
X-LW-03-5235-RD	Program Manager	16-Jun-03	Office Sec of Army	GS-0340	5	5	23,705 - 31,817	X																									

WHO CAN APPLY CODE DEFINITIONS (Note: Only U.S. citizens are eligible to apply for Army positions)

A - Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees (except those excluded by Redstone CPAC)

B - All Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees (except those excluded by Redstone CPAC)

C - Competency Based Veterans receiving 20% or more compensation from a military service or the VA (SF-15 and other documentation required)

D - All Department of Defense competitive service employees and certain DOD excepted service employees (except those excluded by Redstone CPAC)

E - Executive Order 12721 eligibles (Former spouses family member employees who meet eligibility requirements)

F - All Federal employees

G - Severely handicapped persons (Documentation from State Vocational Rehabilitation Service required)

H - Interagency Career Transition Assistance Plan (ICTAP) (Non-DOD Federal employees who have been displaced by RIF)

I - Reinstatement eligibles (Former competitive service Federal employees who meet eligibility requirements)

J - Transfer eligibles (Non-Army Federal competitive service employees) (SF-60 documentation required)

K - Certain veterans and prior military members who meet the eligibility criteria under VRA or VEOA programs (DD-214 or proof of service required)

L - All U.S. citizens

NOTE: If you are interested, carefully read the announcement for the official area of consideration, qualification requirements, and application procedures.

NOTE: The Nonappropriated Fund (NAF) Personnel Office accepts applications for various types of positions, i.e., Cashier, Food Service, Custodial, Bartender. A complete listing of all available positions can be viewed on the web at www.redstonemwr.com, or you may telephone 876-7772.